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INQUIRY

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Edward Teller, 74, is known as the principal architect of the hydrogen bomb. Teller, who studied with Niels Bohr, worked on the Manhattan Project in 1949 at the Los Alamos Laboratory, which developed the atomic bomb. He co-authored The Constructive Uses of Nuclear Explosives. *Teller was interviewed by* USA TODAY's ***Wallace Terry.***

Russians are ready, Americans are not

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USA TODAY: You have urged the CIA to release information about Soviet civil defense systems. If it did, what would we learn, what would we do as a result?

TELLER: We would understand why the Soviets have spent more than $1 billion every year on civil defense, and why the Soviet people are safer than the American people. We should be able to evacuate our cities when we see that the Soviets have started to evacuate theirs. I don't believe the Soviets will dare attack us without evacuating part of their population. But we have a strong economy. We certainly have many more cars. If we are organized, then we can start the evacuation later and finish it earlier than the Soviets. If we don't have this system of counter evacuation, then the Soviets may evacuate and attack. If we do have it, the Soviets will not try.

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